



## DIVISION OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES

Community Health Services  
Disease Prevention  
Family Health  
Health Promotion  
State Epidemiologist

### MEMORANDUM 2007-04

TO: All Vaccine Providers

FROM: Tim Heath, Immunization Program Coordinator

DATE: June 13, 2007

RE: Vaccine Management Business Improvement Project (VMBIP)  
Request for Important Information

I wanted to take this opportunity to inform you on upcoming changes to the method vaccines are ordered and distributed. **The Vaccine Management Business Improvement Project (VMBIP) is a plan developed by the National Immunization Program (NIP) to simplify the processes for vaccine ordering, distribution, and management.** This will enable a quick and effective response to crises such as vaccine shortages, outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases, and disruption of the vaccine supply. This plan will also save a significant amount of resources, including money, which can be redirected to state immunization programs for other activities that will improve immunization coverage levels. The biggest change is that vaccines will be shipped to local vaccine providers nationwide from a central distributor. McKesson has been selected by CDC as the central distributor; they are located in Memphis, TN. They are the largest pharmaceutical distributor in North America.

This new system is going to employ a three tiered ordering system. The frequency in which you will be able to order vaccines will be dependent on the amount of vaccines you provide. Basically the more vaccines you provide, the more frequently you will be able to order. The three ordering frequencies are monthly, bi-monthly, and quarterly. This system may require that some providers keep a larger supply of vaccines on hand. We need to conduct a survey to determine the number and type of refrigerators and freezers that you use to store vaccines; please fill out the attached survey form. Additionally, we need you to complete the form that lists your clinic operation days and times as well as any special shipping instructions you may have for your clinic. **Please complete both and return by fax to Lori King at (605) 773-4113 by June 29th.**

South Dakota is slated to begin using this new system by Spring 2008. I will send out updates, including the ordering tier your facility is in, as they become available. We may also need some more information from you in the future so we greatly appreciate your prompt response to our requests.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me (605) 773-5323 or by email at [Tim.Heath@state.sd.us](mailto:Tim.Heath@state.sd.us)